

Approved at the August 28, 2007 meeting

Flathead County Solid Waste District
Board of Directors Meeting
July 24, 2007 – **5:00 pm**
Landfill Office

1. Roll Call

Board Members present: Mike Eve, Chair; Nathan Sande, Vice Chair; Nancy Askew, Board of Health; Dale Lauman, County Commissioner; Hank Olson, City of Kalispell and Bill Shaw, City of Columbia Falls. Absent: John Helton, Member at Large.

District Staff present: Director David Prunty; Foreman Larry Bellmore and Recording Secretary Deborah Morine

Attendees: Mayre Flowers and Matt O'Connell.

2. Introductory Remarks from Chairman

Mike Eve thanked everyone for attending the meeting.

3. Comments from public

There were no comments

4. Approval of the Board Meeting Minutes for June 19, 2007

Dale Lauman moved to adopt the minutes of the June 19, 2007 meeting. Nancy Askew seconded. Motion passed.

5. Action Agenda

a. Modification of District By-Laws for Public Works Department

At last months meeting the Board passed a motion to modify the District's By-Laws to allow the District to become part of the newly created Flathead County Public Works Department. Per the current By-Laws, the modification must be presented to the Board for a second reading and final vote.

The County Commissioners have modified Resolution 1205B (now 1205C) that was signed in October, 1997 to include the Public Works Department so that the document outlines the parameters that establish the District and how it is operated.

Hank Olson moved to approve amendments to the Flathead County Solid Waste District By-Laws as prepared by the Flathead County Attorneys Office to allow the District to be part of the newly created Flathead County Public Works Department. Nancy Askew seconded. Motion passed.

6. Director's Report

a. Landfill Gas to Energy Project

Flathead Electric Cooperative (FEC) has made application for the funding for the Clean Renewable Energy Bonds (CREBs). If their application is approved the money used to install a gas to energy project at the landfill would be interest free. We will continue to work with FEC on this project. It will be somewhat difficult to start meaningful negotiating until it is known if the CREBs funding is approved, however, there is certainly preliminary information that can be shared. The CREBs funding will have a significant impact on the projects viability to both entities.

As the Board is aware, the District did not make an application as we discussed at the last meeting. After further discussion with FEC, their lender and Johnson Controls, Inc., it was determined that the Internal Revenue Service who will be reviewing the applications for award could have been confused over the dual application for the project.

During our solid waste conference in California in June we were given the opportunity to tour two landfills owned and operated by Orange County, CA. Both facilities are utilizing their landfill gas as a renewable energy source. The FRB Landfill accepts 8,000 tons per day of refuse. They have contracted with a company who is trying to convert landfill gas to liquid methane. They are still refining their operations and are having some difficulties. The Olinda Landfill accepts 3,000 tons per day and has installed a two mega-watt power generating facility. We were unable to get a tour of the engine room but saw the facilities as best we could. One of the most notable issues we noticed was the loud noise produced by the power plant. The intake fans that provided air to the engines and cooling system are extremely loud. Neighbors surrounding this landfill have logged complaints about the systems noise levels.

b. Refuse Operations

Operations proceeded well for the month. Tonnage/Volumes are shown below:

	<u>June</u>
Total MSW to landfill	12,334.31
Total Appliances Collected	1,466
Junk Vehicles Collected	23
Truck Trips to Landfill	554
Refuse tons/trip	7.96

c. Electronic Recycling Event

Dave has begun to research the possibility of increasing our e-waste event frequency and funding requirements as the Board directed last month. The City of Bozeman has held multiple events where the generator (residential and commercial) did not have to pay to recycle their e-waste. The volumes grew tremendously over their three events. The last event had over 118 tons of material recycled. They had significant volunteers (47) to staff the event that handled the 118 tons. That event cost approximately \$28,000 and the

recycler did not charge a per pound cost for their work. Bozeman received a \$10,000 grant for their event in 2004 from Dell, Inc. He has asked the County's grant writer research to see if there are any possible grants for our next event.

The office supply store Staples, Inc., has started a nation wide e-waste recycling service. Customers can take their electronic waste to any Staples store and for a small fee have their wastes recycled. Dave spoke to their corporate office to see if there was any possibility for a public-private partnership opportunity. The person he spoke with thought that since this is such a new program for them that their corporation would like to see how their program works before any partnerships could be developed. She did think that it would be an interesting idea to be looked at in the future.

d. Waste Not Project Update

Mayre Flowers updated the Board on the WasteNot Project.

- Classroom Presentations & Curriculum
- Compost Garden Upkeep
- 06/07 School Waste Reduction Grant Awards
- 07/08 School Mini Grant Applications
- Small Business Hazardous Waste Event
- Electronic Recycling Event
- EarthDay/Global Warming event
- County Science Fair
- Wastenot Project Brochure & Website
- Community Service
- Project Staff & Volunteers

e. Container Site Purchase

Dave met with representatives from the United States Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) regarding the possibility of trading some County ground adjacent to the Smith Lake Waterfowl Production Area to expand the Kila container site. The County owns land that the USFWS currently has fenced as part of the waterfowl production area. This trade would clean up some land ownership issues and allow the District to expand the Kila site to our current operating parameters. The USFWS doubted they would be able to trade any land with the District for a Kila container site. The trade would have to be beneficial to the Waterfowl Production Area and they didn't think that they could persuade their superiors to agree with the trade.

Dave also provided information to the Montana Department of Transportation for the purchase of the Olney site. We have requested to purchase approximately five acres at the current site location. This would give us adequate expansion room for the coming years in the Highway 93N corridor.

Dave spoke to Jed Fisher with Flathead County Parks Department about using any surplus county land in the Kila area for a site. We had the GIS department look for land within a five mile radius of Kila. There wasn't any land available through the Parks Department. The one site that turned up was land adjacent to the Smith Valley Elementary School. After

viewing the property, he wouldn't recommend it for a site. The school uses it for parking and has hauled in significant fill to make the parking area. The area then slopes down to a low lying area that may have water ponding issues in the spring.

f. 980G CAT Wheel Loader

The certified re-build of the CAT 980G loader has been completed. The CAT dealer has been working on the machine at the landfill to fix minor problems/leaks. We do not have a final invoice for the project yet. The operators have commented that it "feels" like it is a new machine. The dealer missed their targeted completion date by one week. The one major item of concern at this point in time is the sound suppression system for the cab did not include the baffle system for the bottom of the cab. We are in discussion with the dealer over this issue.

Dave stated the total cost of the rebuild was \$225,000.

g. Budget

h. Financial Reports

There were no financial reports.

7. Comments from Board Members

Nathan Sande stated he would be absent for the August and September meetings.

8. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 5:56